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SOURCE Borba.

EIGHT-YEAR ACTIVITY OF KNOJ

By decree of the National Liberation Committee of Yugoslavia (Nacionalni komitet oslobođenje Jugoslavije) and the Commissions for National Defense (Provjerenist a za narodnu obranu), the KNOJ (Korpus narodne obrane Jugoslavije, People's Defense Corps of Yugoslavia) was established on 15 August 1944 to protect the rear of the National Liberation Army and to maintain order in liberated territory. The KNOJ successfully accomplished its mission by clearing the liberated territory of remnants of beaten enemy units, spies, and diversionists and securing harbors, coasts, and national frontiers.

During a 3-year period, Ustashi and Chetniks entered Yugoslavia from capitalist countries and operated on the frontiers or deep in the rear of Yugoslav forces. With the general support of the people, they were captured by Yugoslav border guards, the UDB (State Security Administration), and the People's Militia.

When internal enemies were beaten, another enemy appeared. This was the USSR and its imperialistic policies. This created a new and dangerous situation for Yugoslav frontier guards, who immediately perceived the villainous intent of the Cominform Resolution, despised its creators, and branded them traitors. Frontier personnel felt the impact of the plundering and aggressive policy of the USSR and its Satellites, Hungary, Rumania, Bulgaria, and Albania, who vied to see which could commit more crimes against socialist Yugoslavia, its frontiers, and its inhabitants.

From the time of the Cominform Resolution to 1 August 1952, there were 4,614 incidents on Yugoslav frontiers bordering on Hungary, Rumania, Bulgaria, and Albania. Yugoslav territory was violated 288 times, 3,338 shots were fired at Yugoslav frontier installations, 14 frontier guards were killed and 24 wounded, two civilians were killed and ten wounded, and Yugoslav frontier guards and inhabitants were provoked 112 times. There were 24 instances of destruction or

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moving of frontier markers, 246 violations of Yugoslav air space, 130 instances of searchlights being turned on Yugoslav territory, 438 instances of Cominform propaganda material being smuggled into Yugoslavia, 71 instances of gangs of bandits and diversionists being smuggled into Yugoslavia, 13 violations of Yugoslav territorial waters, and 6 instances of fires being set in Yugoslav frontier areas. The number of frontier incidents caused by Moscow agents increased from 149 in 1948 to 633 in 1949, 954 in 1950, 1,734 in 1951, and 1,114 up to 1 August 1952.

The suffering of workers in Cominform countries under the heel of Soviet and domestic traitors is evidenced by the number of Bulgarians, Hungarians, Albanians, and Rumanians who have fled to Yugoslavia. From the Cominform Resolution to the present, 2,457 civilians and 106 soldiers have fled from Albania, 1,445 civilians and 182 soldiers from Bulgaria, 1,410 civilians and 147 soldiers from Rumania, and 2,116 civilians and 130 soldiers from Hungary, for a total of 7,428 civilians and 565 soldiers. All of them had to overcome innumerable difficulties to escape the clutches of the NKVD, such as barbed wire, machine-gun nests, mine fields, and bunkers on their frontiers. In 1952, 296 civilians and 55 soldiers and officers escaped. They reported that they fled because of the fear, tyranny, and destruction which threatened them in their countries.

Many attempts by Moscow agents to disrupt peace in Yugoslavia and prevent its socialist development have failed because of the patriotism, coolness, preparedness, and determination of Yugoslav frontier guards. When necessary, they fought to the last. Border guard Djuric, who was fatally wounded, said, "Better dead in one's own country than alive in the enemy's country." They are aware that they are protecting and defending the frontiers of socialist Yugoslavia against the enemies of socialism, and that their alertness permits their people to progress in peace. They are proud to have such an important mission, and no one has ever executed it with so much patriotism, fervor, heroism, and love of people, or as great a hatred of the enemy.

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